

- **Forestland ownership:**
 - Public: 1.93 million acres
 - National Forest: 1.2 million acres
 - Other Public: 700,000 acres
 - Private: 15.67 million acres
 - Forest Industry: 1.5 million acres
 - Non-Industrial Private: 13.8 million acres
 - Estimated number of Private Landowners: > 600,000
- **Timber Species Mix:**
 - Hardwoods: 55 percent
 - Softwood (pines): 28 percent
 - Mixed Stands: 17 percent
- **Acres harvested/year and retained in timberland: 247,000 acres/year**
- **Annual reforestation: 315,000 acres/year**
- **Best management practices for forestry can be found at:**
www.dfr.nc.gov/water_quality/bmp_fieldguide.htm

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE WATER GROUP

The Fruit and Vegetable Water Group met twice to discuss the future trends of fruit and vegetable crops, and the needs and recommendations for water use. The work group was comprised of university staff, farmers, commodity group leaders and representatives of agricultural agencies.

Future Trends:

- Sweet potato production is increasing due to value-added products. The next five years will see a 10 percent acreage increase due to export growth.
- Input costs are higher for production fruits and vegetables.
- There has been a decrease in fruit and vegetable acreage due to input costs, but farm receipts are up from \$359 million in 2004 to \$429 million in 2009.
- Blueberry has had a recent jump in acreage, from 4,200 acres in 2003 to 6,075 acres in 2008, and this increase shows signs of continuing.
- Farm production will increase with the addition of new farms.
- Increased sales of fruit and vegetables are caused by marketing the crops' nutritional value.
- Strawberry acreage has increased over the past several years.
- Tomato acreage is down, but yields have increased due to cultural practices.
- Melon production is stable with a possible 5 percent growth in the near future.
- Leafy greens production is expanding due to market demand.
- Pepper production is increasing.
- Fresh market muscadine grape production is increasing.

Irrigation Sources for Fruit and Vegetable Production:

- Western North Carolina: streams and rivers
- Piedmont North Carolina: streams, rivers, ponds, lakes and ground water
- Eastern North Carolina: ground water, ponds and streams